## **Returning CONUS**

Service members returning to CONUS assignments should consider enrolling their family members in the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) before their departure from OCONUS.

One very important pre-departure stop for service members returning to the US should be the United Concordia Companies Inc., (UCCI) web site at <a href="www.ucci.com">www.ucci.com</a> in order to accomplish an online enrollment in the TDP. Returning service members who sign up for the TDP before their departure for the US ensure that their family members will have the insurance in place and effective when they arrive back in the US. Those sponsors retiring or separating within one year, who wait to enroll until they are back in the US, run the risk of not having the necessary 12 months retainability required for enrollment. Enrollment while they are still overseas will prevent a last minute rush to get this accomplished within the 12-month time constraint.

The TRICARE Dental Program is a valuable benefit for active duty family members, Reservists and Guard members and their families. This program enables eligible beneficiaries to access civilian dental providers, helping them maintain good oral health. It is important that military members consider the many benefits of this program and decide if their families should be enrolled in the TDP. UCCI, the dental insurer, operates both the CONUS and the OCONUS Program, therefore the program is completely portable.

The best way to prevent dental problems is to get good yearly dental checkups and to promptly correct any problems. The TDP enables military beneficiaries to do this in a cost efficient way. Don't miss out on this opportunity. Consider enrolling your family in the TDP before you return to the US.